

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIEP-02 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SCI-06

EPA-04 CEQ-02 AEC-11 DRC-01 /148 W

----- 020248

R 051416Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 598

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,

SUBJECT: INITIAL SOVIET REACTION TO SUMMIT

1. HEAVY CENTRAL PRESS COVERAGE OF SUMMIT EVENTS HAS CONTINUED FOLLOWING PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE. AUTHORITATIVE COMMENTARY EVALUATING RESULTS HAS NOT YET BEGUN TO APPEAR. SELECTED EXCERPTS REPRINTED FROM FOREIGN COMMENTARY INDICATES, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS ARE SUFFICIENTLY SATISFIED WITH AGREEMENTS REACHED TO STRESS CONCRETE RESULTS OF SUMMIT OVER GENERAL USEFULNESS OF SUCH MEETINGS AS MAIN CHANNEL OF BILATERAL CONSULTATION, THOUGH LATTER CONCEPT RECEIVES FAIRLY GENEROUS PLAY AS WELL.

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2. JULY 4 PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA DEVOTE BETTER PART OF FRONT

AND SECOND PAGES TO SUMMIT EVENTS AND TO TEXTS OF COMMUNIQUE AND ABM PROTOCOL. JULY 5 PRAVDA CARRIES TTB TEXT AND PROTOCOL AND JOINT STATEMENT ON USE OF THE ENVIRONMENT. PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES FRONT PAGE COLUMN OF LETTERS TO THE EDITOR PRAISING CPSU PEACE PROGRAM IN SUMMIT CONTEXT AND EXTOLLING BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FROM SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER COOPERATION WITH U.S. JULY 4 IZVESTIYA AND JULY 5 PRAVDA CARRY EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE NATION, OMITTING REFERENCES TO CONTINUING WESTERN NEED FOR A STRONG NATO BUT INCLUDING HIS STATEMENT THAT IT IS AN "IMPERATIVE NECESSITY" TO MAKE PROCESS OF DETENTE IRREVERSIBLE.

3. ANTI-AMERICANA IS NOTABLY ABSENT EVEN IN ARMY DAILY RED STAR, WHICH REPLACES USUAL "AMERICAN" WITH "FOREIGN" IN STORY ON TROOPS IN ICELAND. SUMMARIES OF FOREIGN PRESS WHICH APPEAR IN JULY 4 IZVESTIYA AND JULY 5 PRAVDA BOTH CONDEND, HOWEVER, THAT SOME PRESS OBSERVERS IN U.S. ARE ATTEMPTING TO BELITTLE AND PLACE IN DISTORTED PERSPECTIVE CONCRETE RESULTS OF SUMMIT IN ARMS CONTROL.

4. IZVESTIYA FOREIGN EDITOR GRIGORYANTS CONFIRMED DURING JULY 4 SPASO HOUSE RECEPTION GENERAL SOVIET SATISFACTION WITH SUMMIT RESULTS, BUT NOTED HIS OWN FEELING THAT MORE IN ARMS CONTROL COULD PERHAPS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED HAD NOT THE PRESIDENT'S DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES LIMITED HIS FREEDOM TO NEGOTIATE IN THIS AREA. OTHERS AT RECEPTION MADE SAME LINKAGE. IN THE MAIN, SOVIET COMMENTS AT SPASO HOUSE WERE POSITIVE, AS EXPECTED. SEVERAL SOVIETS TOOK PARTICULAR RELISH IN FACT THAT U.S. CRITICS OF SUMMIT HAD BEEN CONFOUNDED. GRIGORYANTS TOOK MORE CAUTIOUS APPROACH; HE SAID MAJOR IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY ON SUMMIT WOULD PROBABLY AWAIT A WEIGHING OF U.S. PRESS REACTION.

5. SOVIET TURNOUT AT JULY 4 RECEPTION WAS HEAVY, WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS KIRILLIN AND ARKHIPOV TOPPING LIST. THIS IS A COMEDOWN FROM LAST YEAR, WHEN FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (AND POLITBURO MEMBER) MAZUROV WAS RANKING GUEST. WE DOUBT THAT ANY SLIGHT WAS INTENDED THIS YEAR; WE WERE TOLD BY MFA JULY 1 THAT KIRILLIN WOULD BE RANKING SOVIET. A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE OF POLITBURO MEMBER MAY BE A POLITBURO MEETING JULY 4. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION THAT SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A MEETING TOOK PLACE, BUT IT SEEMS LOGICAL IN VIEW OF CONCLUSION OF SUMMIT PREVIOUS DAY AND OF FACT THAT THURSDAYS ARE OFTEN POLITBURO MEETING DAYS.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PRESS SUMMARIES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW10544
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740179-0122
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740773/aaaackij.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INITIAL SOVIET REACTION TO SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005